



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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Woman Sentenced to 48 Months in Kidnapping of 6-Year-Old Boy

WASHINGTON - Rolanda Edgar, 29, recently was sentenced to 48 months in prison, followed by five years of supervised release, for kidnapping a friend's six-year-old son following an argument, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced. The Honorable Rosemary M. Collyer, of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, sentenced the defendant August 3, 2010.

According to evidence presented at the plea hearing May 21, 2010, the defendant and the child's mother had been in a romantic relationship for about two years. On March 8, 2010, the child's mother had dropped off her son at his school in the District of Columbia. Shortly thereafter, she returned home and became involved in a heated argument with Edgar concerning the disintegration of their romantic relationship. During the argument, Edgar became extraordinarily distraught and began displaying behavior that the child's mother had seen on previous occasions before the defendant had abused her. As a result, the child's mother left the apartment. Later that afternoon, Edgar sent a series of text messages to the child's mother telling her that she had her son and that she was going to kill herself.

Fearing for her son's safety, the mother drove to his school. There she was told that someone else who identified herself as the child's mother had picked him up. The mother called the police, and the Metropolitan Police Department issued an Amber Alert. After several hours of searching, police received a tip from an anonymous caller. As a result, law enforcement officers located the boy in Maryland.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen praised the work of the Metropolitan Police Department and the Washington Field Office of the FBI, as well as Assistant U.S. Attorneys Julieanne Himelstein and David Kent who prosecuted the case.

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